

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus at least having a processing unit and an output unit, wherein

said processing apparatus ~~comprises~~ comprising:

an encryption processing device for performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of a digital content, which is an object to an audiovisual sense, and is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is encrypted and a remainder of which is unencrypted, by using encryption key information shared with said output unit; and

a transfer device for transferring the part of the digital content which has been encrypted along with the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content to said output unit, and

said output unit comprises:

an input device for inputting the digital content transferred from said processing apparatus;

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the encryption key information shared with said processing apparatus; and

an output device for outputting the digital content decrypted from the encrypted part thereof as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content.

3. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus at least having a processing unit and an output unit, wherein

said processing apparatus ~~comprises~~ comprising:

an input device for inputting an encrypted digital content;

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the inputted digital content by using encryption key information for decrypting the digital content;

an encryption processing device for performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of the decrypted digital content, which is an object to an audiovisual sense, and is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is encrypted and a remainder of which is unencrypted, using encryption key information shared with said output unit; and

a transfer device for transferring the part of the digital content which has been encrypted along with the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content to said output unit;

said output unit comprising:

an input device for inputting the digital content transferred from said processing apparatus;

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the encryption key information shared with said processing apparatus; and

an output device for outputting the digital content decrypted from the encrypted part thereof as well as the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content.

4. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

an input device for inputting an encrypted digital content;

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the inputted digital content by using encryption key information for decrypting the digital content;

an encryption processing device for performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of the decrypted digital content, which is an object to an audiovisual sense, and is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is encrypted and a remainder of which is unencrypted, by using encryption key information shared with a destination output unit; and

a transfer device for transferring the part of the digital content which has been encrypted along with the remaining unencrypted part of the digital content to said output unit.

5. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the digital content to be inputted by said input device is encrypted, with a formatted unit of the digital content in an unencrypted manner taken as one unit, in a part of the units as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

6. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said encryption processing device performs an encryption process, with a formatted unit of the digital content in an unencrypted manner taken as one unit, on a part of the units as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

7. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, ~~when~~ said output unit is a sound reproducing unit, said encryption processing device performs an encryption process, with a plurality of samples of sound data taken as one unit, on sound data to be outputted to said sound reproducing unit ~~whereby~~ and a part, but not all, of the sound data units is processed

as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

8. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, ~~when~~ said output unit is a display unit, said encryption processing device performs an encryption process, with a plurality of lines of display data taken as one unit, ~~whereby~~ a part, but not all, of the display data units is processed as a subject of the encryption process in a line direction of the display data to be outputted to said display unit, or performs an encryption process, with a plurality of columns of display data taken as one unit, ~~whereby~~ and a part of the display data units is processed as a subject of the encryption process in a column direction of the display data to be outputted to said display unit, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, ~~when~~ said output unit is a display unit, said encryption processing device performs an encryption process, with data in an amount of one pixel of display data to be outputted to said display unit taken as one unit, ~~whereby~~ and one part of the display data units is processed, as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

10. (Currently Amended) A display unit comprising:

an input device for inputting display data encrypted in part, but not all, thereof;

said display data including a digital content, which is an object to an audiovisual sense, and is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is encrypted and a remainder of which is unencrypted.

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the inputted encrypted part of the display data by using encryption key information shared with an information processing apparatus as a transfer source of the display data; and

a display device for displaying display data decrypted from the encrypted part thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) A display unit according to claim 10, wherein a digital content to be inputted by said input device is encrypted, with a plurality of lines of display data taken as one unit, ~~whereby~~ a part of the display data units is processed as a subject of the encryption process in a line direction of the display data in an unencrypted manner, or, with a plurality of columns of display data taken as one meaning unit, ~~whereby~~ and a part, but not all, of the display data units is a subject of encryption processing in a column direction of the display data in an unencrypted manner, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

12. (Currently Amended) A display unit according to claim 10, wherein a digital content to be inputted by said input device is encrypted, with data in an amount of one pixel of unencrypted display data taken as one unit, whereby and one part of the display data units is processed, as a subject of the encryption process, and whether each block is encrypted, is controlled for each block.

13. (Currently Amended) A digital content distributing system having a digital content distributing apparatus for distributing a digital content and an information processing apparatus for transferring the digital content distributed from the digital content distributing apparatus to an output unit,

said digital content distributing apparatus comprising:

a storage device storing a digital content, of which part, but not all, is encrypted in meaning by using first encryption key information shared with said information processing apparatus; and

a distributing device for distributing the stored digital content to said information processing apparatus,

said information processing apparatus comprising:

an input device for inputting the digital content distributed from said digital content distributing apparatus;

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the first encryption key information;

an encryption processing device for performing an encryption process on a part, but not all, of the digital content, which is an object to an audiovisual sense, and is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is encrypted and a remainder of which is unencrypted, the digital content being decrypted from the encrypted part by using second encryption key information shared with said output unit; and

a transfer device for transferring the encrypted digital content to said output unit, and

said output unit comprising:

an input device for inputting the digital content transferred from said information processing apparatus;

a decryption processing device for performing a decryption process on the encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the second encryption key information; and

an output device for outputting the digital content decrypted from the encrypted part;

wherein said encryption processing device of said digital content distributing apparatus and said encryption processing device of said information processing apparatus perform an encryption process, with a formatted unit of the digital content in unencrypted form taken as one unit, on a part of the formatted units as a subject of encryption process.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for distributing a digital content from a digital content distributing apparatus to an information processing apparatus and outputting the distributed digital content by an output unit, in a digital content distributing system having the digital content distributing apparatus for distributing the digital content and the information processing apparatus for transferring the digital content distributed from the digital content distributing apparatus to the output unit, said method comprising the steps of:

distributing, by said digital content distributing apparatus, a digital content, of which part, but not all, is encrypted, by using first encryption key information shared with said information processing apparatus, to said information processing apparatus;

performing, by said information processing apparatus, a decryption process, using the first encryption key information, on the encrypted part of the digital content distributed from said digital content distributing apparatus, and an encryption process, using second encryption key information shared with said output unit, on a part of the digital content in meaning, which is an object to an audiovisual sense, and is divided into a plurality of blocks, one or some of which is encrypted and a remainder of which is unencrypted, the digital content being decrypted infrom the encrypted part, and then transferring the encrypted digital content to said output unit;

performing a decryption process, using the second encryption key information, on the encrypted part of the digital content transferred from said

information processing apparatus and outputting the digital content decrypted in the encrypted part, by said output unit;

wherein the digital content to be distributed by said digital content distributing apparatus and the digital content to be transferred by said information processing apparatus are encrypted, with a formatted unit of the digital content in unencrypted form taken as one unit, on a part of the formatting units as a subject of the encryption process.